GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3014
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2002
SETTING UP A COCONUT FIBER AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE
P.C. THOMAS

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the coconut farmers are facing serious hardships due to low price for their produces, diseased coconut and trees and other financial strains;

(b) whether the Government have taken action in this regard;

(c) whether the Government of Kerala has proposed setting up of a Coconut Fiber and Research Institute in Kerala by ICAR or any other agency; and

(d) The reaction of the Government and the steps taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) The coconut farmers in the country are facing hardship due to prevalence of various pests and diseases in coconut. As regards the price of coconut produce, there has been a declining trend during last two years. However, the trend in 2002 season indicates that there is increase in price of coconut products.
(b) The Coconut Development Board is implementing various development programmes to assist the farmers for the management of disease/pest affected gardens. Under the Technology Mission on Coconut, assistance is being provided to the research institutes to develop suitable strategies for disease and pest control.
(c) & (d): ICAR has no proposal to establish Coconut Fibre and Research Institute in Kerala.